

BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR FRANCIS MARION UNIVERSITY

Francis Marion University
The Cottage, Hendrick Room

Thursday, June 23, 2016 – 4:15 pm – 4:50 pm

Presiding:

Mr. Kenneth W. Jackson, Chairman

Present:

Mr. Jody Bryson
Dr. James M. Bunch
Mr. William W. Coleman, Jr.
Dr. H. Randall Dozier
Mr. L. Franklin Elmore
Rev. Mary M. Finklea
Mr. R. Tracy Freeman
Mr. William Edward Gunn
Mrs. Patricia C. Hartung
Mr. Stephen N. Jones
Mr. Floyd L. Keels
Senator Hugh K. Leatherman, Sr.
Member Emeritus
Mr. Robert E. Lee
Mr. George C. McIntyre
Mr. Mark S. Moore
Dr. J. Kevin O'Kelly
Mrs. Gail Ness Richardson

Others Present:

Ms. Katherine B. Barnette, Administrative Coordinator - Graphic Design
Mr. Darryl Bridges, Vice President for Development/Executive Director of the Foundation
Mr. Thomas Brown, Student Worker – Instructional Technology and Electronic Media Services
Dr. L. Fred Carter, President
Mrs. Kim Davis, Executive Assistant to the President
Mr. Daniel Dukes, Legislative Liaison
Mrs. Joyce Durant, Dean of the Library
Mr. Jonathan Edwards, General Counsel
Mr. Larry Falck, Media Production and Web Design Coordinator
Dr. Rebecca Flannagan, Chair of the Faculty and Professor of English
Mr. A. Glen Gourley, Vice Chair of the Faculty and Professor of Theatre Arts and Speech – Directing
Mr. Murray G. Hartzler, Director of Athletics
Dr. Tracy Meetze Holcombe, Associate Dean of the School of Education and Associate Professor of Education
Dr. Christopher M. Kennedy, Associate Provost and Director of Graduate Programs
Mr. Jay Kispert, Vice President for Business Affairs
Dr. Peter King, Provost
Mr. Tucker Mitchell, Executive Director of Public Affairs
Ms. Freddricka Pressley, SGA President
Dr. Hari K. Rajagopalan, Associate Dean of the School of Business and Associate Professor of Management
Mrs. Teresa J. Ramey, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
Ms. Melissa Rollins, Reporter for Morning News
Dr. Charlene Wages, Vice President for Administration
Dr. Alissa Warters, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs and Enrollment Management
Mr. Bradley W. Wofford, Director of Instructional Technology and Electronic Media Services
Mr. Julian M. Young, Director of Alumni Affairs and Annual Giving

Mr. Jackson called the meeting to order at 4:15 pm, and then he asked Mrs. Davis to call the roll. He stated for the record that media notification had been made in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, and that a quorum was present.

Mr. Jackson presented the minutes of the February 25, 2016, board meeting to the board for approval. Mr. Coleman made a motion for the minutes to be approved, and the motion was seconded by Dr. Dozier. The minutes received unanimous approval by the board.

Mr. Jackson made a motion that the Executive Affairs Committee Report be presented at the end of the meeting agenda. Mr. Lee seconded the motion, and unanimous approval was given by the board

Academic Affairs and Accreditation Committee:

Dr. Bunch reported the following information that was shared with the committee:

- Dr. Rebecca Flannagan, Chair of the Faculty, reported that Professor Glen Gourley was re-elected as Vice-Chair of the Faculty, and Dr. Karen Fries was elected as Secretary.
- On April 19, the faculty unanimously approved the revisions to the faculty bylaws with regard to the new School of Health Sciences.
- Dr. Jeannette Myers was presented the Distinguished Professor of the Year Award for 2016 at the Distinguished Faculty Dinner held on April 21.
- An orientation session will be held on August 19 for nineteen new faculty members who will be starting in Fall 2016.
- Scholarship Awards Day was held on April 30, and there were eighty-seven students receiving scholarships that participated.
- There are four new freshmen orientation sessions scheduled for this summer, with two being two-day events and two being one-day events. There are also two orientation sessions being offered for transfer students. In addition, on the day before classes start there is an orientation for new freshmen and transfer students who are late applicants
- Enrollment for Fall 2016 is expected to be very close to the total enrollment figure for Fall 2015.
- There were three McNair Scholars chosen for the 2016-17 academic year.
- The number of Konduros Scholarships being awarded has increased from eight to twelve.
- There were 346 students (318 undergraduate and 28 graduate) receiving degrees at Commencement on May 7, 2016. The current number of graduates for the 2015-16 academic year is 697, with more students to graduate during the summer.
- The Financial Assistance office has awarded aid to 3,715 students thus far for the Fall 2016 semester.
- There were thirty-one FMU students who participated in the Student International Exchange Program during the 2015-16 academic year. There were also twelve foreign students who came to FMU to participate in the exchange program.

- The School of Education is currently hosting eight professors from Thailand who are receiving instruction on Project Based Learning. They have also toured sites such as our State Capital, the Darlington Raceway, and Brookgreen Gardens.
- The new School of Health Sciences will officially begin on July 1, 2016.
- Appreciation was extended to Dr. Barry O'Brien as he retires after twenty-eight years of service.

Dr. Bunch concluded his report.

Development and Alumni Committee:

Mr. Elmore shared the following report with the board:

Development:

- New officers for the Foundation Board have been elected: Chair – Mr. Tim Norwood, Vice-Chair – Mr. James Harrell, Secretary/Treasurer – Ms. Jane Huggins.
- Mr. Brent Tiller was elected as a new Foundation Board member.
- The Foundation Board held a retreat on June 15, during which fundraising initiatives for the next few years were discussed.
- The Foundation received an unmodified opinion on its recent audit, which indicates the highest level of compliance.
- The university community is saddened by the recent loss of Mr. Fred Sheheen, who served as Director of the Non-Profit Leadership Institute and the Rural Leadership Institute.
- FMU is working in collaboration with the College of Charleston, Coastal Carolina University, and the Lake City Partnership Council to offer a Local Government Leadership Institute. The sessions, which will be held at the Bean Market Museum in Lake City, will be offered one time each month beginning in September 2016 and ending in April 2017.

Alumni:

- The Alumni Association Board elected six new members: Mr. Baron Davis, Ms. Natasha Harrison, Mr. James McComb, Ms. Sameka Merisier Jenkins, Mr. Charles Marshall, and Ms. Lauren Stanton.
- Mr. Tim Hunter is Vice-President of the Alumni Association.
- The Biology department will hold an alumni awards reception on October 4, 2016 at 6:00 pm at The Cottage.
- A Psychology Alumni Awards Reception will be held at The Cottage on October 24, 2016 at 6:00 pm.

Mr. Elmore concluded his report.

Financial Affairs and Facilities Committee:

Mr. Jones shared the following information from the committee meeting:

Budget Summary Report:

- Late Spring 2016 tuition revenue exceeds budget expectations by \$20,760 which is due to an increase in graduate course enrollment from last year.
- Summer I 2016 Tuition revenue exceeded budget projections by \$1,302,029 due to undergraduate enrollment increasing from Summer I 2015.
- As of May 31, 2016, 89% of the general funds were expended. It is anticipated that expenses will stay within budget.
- Total employee headcount is currently 493, and FTE is 439.86. The four-year change is 4 for headcount and 4.23 for FTE.

Proposed budget for 2016-17:

- New Revenue Inflows:
 1. The university will receive \$925,000 in base operating appropriations in response to our request for state appropriations for the Speech Pathology Program and the Advising and Retention Initiative.
 2. The state mandated a 3.25% cost of living increase for state employees and will cover approximately 31% of that cost, which is roughly \$413,231.
 3. An increase of 3.25% in tuition and fees will generate an additional \$1,145,124.
 4. It is estimated that the new Physician Assistant program will generate \$900,000 in revenue during its first year.
- New Expense Outflows:
 1. Cost of operating the new Carter Center for Health Sciences, in addition to the direct cost related to the first year of the Physician Assistant program, will total approximately \$565,190.
 2. Cost adjustments for state mandated cost of living increase equal \$1,568,142.
 3. Operating costs for the new Advising and Retention Initiative equal \$350,000.
 4. Other academic and administrative cost adjustments equal \$439,527, which will be netted against budgetary savings of \$595,738.
- Resolution 02-16 for University Budget Approval was presented to the board, which comes from the committee with unanimous approval. Mr. Jones made a motion that the resolution be approved, and Mrs. Richardson seconded the motion. The resolution received unanimous approval by the board.

Facilities:

- Resolution 03-16 for Approval of Mutual Aid Agreements with Law Enforcement was presented to the board. Mr. Jones made a motion that the resolution be approved, and Mr. Gunn seconded the motion. The resolution received unanimous approval by the board.
- An update on the Carter Center for Health Sciences will be given by Dr. Carter in his report.

Mr. Jones concluded his report.

Student Affairs and Athletics Committee:

Mr. Bryson presented the following information reported to the committee:

Athletics:

- The women's tennis team finished its 2016 season with a 20-7 record. The team also competed in the Regional Finals of the NCAA Division II National Tournament. This is the eighth time over the past ten years that the women's tennis program has participated in the tournament, and the fourteenth time in the history of the university.
- The men's tennis team ended the 2016 season with a 15-10 record, which is a six-win improvement over the 2015 season. The team earned an invitation to the NCAA tournament for the eighteenth time in the history of the university, and they were ranked 28th in the final Intercollegiate Tennis Association national rankings.
- Under the leadership of first-year coach Jeri Porter, the women's basketball team had one of the biggest turn-arounds in Division II history. The team went from a twenty loss season in 2015 to a 24-9 record in the 2016 season, and they were ranked number 23 nationally. In addition, they made an appearance in the NCAA Elite Eight in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. On the way to the Elite Eight, the Lady Patriots swept through the Southeast Regional in Gaffney, South Carolina. Sophomore Briana Burgess was named the region's Most Outstanding Player, and Shaunice Fulmore was named as the conference Freshman of the Year.
- The softball team had a very successful 30-win season.
- The athletic department and teams held eighteen different community engagement events during the 2015-16 year. The baseball team, in collaboration with Pepsi of Florence, sponsored a Boys and Girls Club Day at the baseball game on April 23, with over 250 children from the local area attending. This event won the Peach Belt Conference Connecting Communities Award for best community engagement activities.
- Spring GPA for student athletes was 2.95, which was higher than the overall student GPA of 2.499.
- Sixteen student athletes were inducted into the Chi Alpha Sigma National Honor Society. To be inducted, the student athlete must be in their fifth semester of study and have a GPA of 3.4 or higher.
- Eighty-seven student athletes having a GPA of 3.0 or greater for the year were named to the Peach Belt Conference Honor Roll.

Student Affairs:

- The Student Leadership Conference was successful with 65 students attending. Faculty, staff and students made presentations during the sessions.
- The Student Life Awards ceremony was held on April 19, and the following awards were presented at the event: Eight Pride of the Patriot Awards; Leadership Legacy Awards were given to Samuel Smoot and Hayes McLendon; Student Organization of the Year Awards were presented to the Baptist Collegiate Ministry and the Student Alumni Association.
- The Office of Career Development held a Spring Career Fair on April 13. A total of 227 students, 70 companies, and over 100 recruiters participated in the event.

- The Student Government Association recently elected new officers: Freddricka Pressley - President; Jonathan Greene, Jr. - Vice-President; Brittany Greene - Secretary; Kendalyn Woodard - Treasurer.
- Freshman Move-in Day is scheduled for August 20 beginning at 8:00 am.

Mr. Bryson concluded his report.

President's Report:

Dr. Carter made the following comments during his report:

- Having served as Vice-President of the SGA during the 2015-16 year, Freddricka Pressley understands the student government process well. There are many wonderful ideas she plans to implement with regard to student government and the student body as a whole, and she will do a wonderful job in her leadership role as SGA President.
- The Carter Center for Health Sciences is nearing completion and will soon be ready for occupancy. A ribbon cutting ceremony is being planned for August 4, which is the date of the Board Retreat/Meeting, and it will take place at 10:00 am that morning. Senator Leatherman, Mayor Wukela, Dr. Floyd, and Mr. Jackson will take part in the ceremony. Tours of the building will be offered to those in attendance at the ceremony. The Board Retreat will be held in the new facility immediately following the ribbon cutting. After the completion of the retreat later in the afternoon, the committee meetings and board meeting will be held.
- Appreciation was extended to the board for passing the 3.25% tuition increase, as well as to the legislative delegation for the \$1,625,000 in appropriations that was provided to the university. \$925,000 in recurring funds will go to the new Speech Pathology Program and the Advising and Retention Initiative. In addition, the university will receive the first installment of funds, equaling \$700,000, for the development of the new Honors Center. A task force regarding the Academic Advising and Retention Initiative has begun meeting, and Dr. King will present plans for the development of this program at the fall board meeting.
- The death of Mr. Fred Sheheen was a profound loss to the university and to the state. He served as the Executive Director of the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education from 1991-1998, and was a strong voice for issues such as greater diversity in enrollment at universities across the state. Equally important was his work over the past fourteen years as Director of the Non-profit Leadership Institute and the Rural Leadership Institute. He firmly believed in helping people, especially those in underserved areas. In the near future, Dr. Carter and Dr. King will bring before the board some suggestions for commemorating Mr. Sheheen's work with the NPLI and RLI.

Dr. Carter concluded his report.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

Mr. Jackson presented plaques to Rev. Finklea and Mrs. Richardson and thanked them for their years of service on the board.

Mr. Jackson then presented to the board Resolution 01-16 for Approval of Trustee Emerita Status for Gail Ness Richardson, which comes from the Executive Affairs Committee with unanimous approval. Mr. Jackson made a motion that the resolution be approved, and Mr. Freeman seconded the motion. The resolution received unanimous approval from the board. Mr. Jackson then presented the framed resolution to Mrs. Richardson and extended appreciation for her twenty-eight years of dedicated service on behalf of the board and the university.

Executive Session

Not needed

Mr. Jackson adjourned the meeting at 4:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

William Edward Gunn
Secretary